Amendments to the Claims:

1. (Cancelled)

2. (Currently Amended) The ~~use~~ method as claimed in claim 9 ~~1~~, wherein said linear n-alkanols ~~are linear, possibly branched, hydrocarbon-chain n-alkanols in which~~ have the OH group is in the 1-position ~~(primary alcohol)~~ or in the 2-position ~~(secondary alcohol)~~.

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Currently Amended) The ~~use~~ method as claimed in claim 9 ~~1~~, wherein said mammal has pathologies related to dysfunction of said CFTR ~~are~~ selected from the group consisting of cystic fibrosis, atypical cystic fibrosis, and obstructions of the bronchial tracts or of the digestive tracts.

5. (Currently Amended) The ~~use~~ method as claimed in claim 9 ~~1~~, wherein said n-alkanols are provided in a form suitable for intranasal or buccal administration.

6. (Currently Amended) The ~~use~~ method as claimed in claim 5, wherein said n-alkanols are provided in a liquid form, for administration in the form of an aerosol or in the form of a nebulized material.

7. (Currently Amended) The ~~use~~ method as claimed in claim 6, wherein said n-alkanols are combined with at least one pharmaceutically acceptable carrier appropriate for said intranasal or buccal administration.

8. (Currently Amended) The ~~use~~ method as claimed in claim 9 ~~1~~, wherein said n-alkanols are administered at a concentration of between ~~0.001% and 0.1% (v/v), corresponding to a value of between~~ 10 and 1000 ppm (parts per million), namely ~~i.e.~~ from 10 mg/kg to 1 g/kg.

9. (New) A method for partially or fully activating cystic fibrosis transmembrane conductance regulator channels (CFTR) in cell membranes of a mammal in need of such treatment comprising administering to said mammal at least one linear n-alkanol selected from the group consisting of C^6-C_{10} and mixtures thereof in an amount sufficient to generate in the vicinity of said cell membranes a concentration of said n-alkanol sufficient to partially or fully open said CFTR in said cell membranes.